

Upon the whole, the States immediately interested and bordering on the British provinces have come to the conclusion that, as a Treaty of Friendship and of Commerce, the Reciprocity Treaty has been eminently beneficial to both countries.

Thus, the New York Committee of the Chamber of Commerce say: "On the whole, then, the Committee has come to the conclusion that the large majority of the people of British North America, as well as of the States most interested in the subject, are in favour of a renewal and modification of the Reciprocity Treaty, in order to retain its benefits."

The Boston Report of a Special Committee of the Boston Board of Trade contains the following passages:—

"In the place of barred and bolted ports, the people of the United States and of the Colonies now, and under the Reciprocity Treaty, deal with one another at will, exchange without Customs even the 'wealth of seas' and the principal raw staples of the soil; mingle as if of the same nation on all fishing grounds, and as if of the same nation, too, use the St. Lawrence and the canals which connect it with the most distant of the great lakes and with the ocean. True, in this happy condition of things there are some grave evils to lament and to correct; yet we are still to rejoice that the inhuman restrictions which existed for nearly half a century have been removed. And now! are the misunderstandings of the moment to be cherished, and to terminate at last in utter alienation and hatred? Is retaliatory legislation to be revived on both sides?"

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"Finally, we are amazed at the efforts to abrogate the Reciprocity Treaty of June 5, 1854, without an overture for negotiation. We had supposed that in commercial freedom, and of consequence in the promotion of human brotherhood, there is no recession. Is the case before us to stand in history as an exception?"

Next we find in the Report of a debate at Detroit the following statements:—

" MICHIGAN.

"Detroit Board of Trade, December 7, says:—The only action necessary on the part of our Government is to allow the present Treaty to stand until Commissioners appointed by it and the British Colonies of North America agree on whatever alterations may be deemed advisable, and mutually just and beneficial."

" ILLINOIS.

"Chicago Board of Trade, February 10, 1862, states that the 'Treaty has been of great value to the producing interest of the whole north-west.' Says that 'we should not check the energy nor circumscribe the industry of our country; but take a broad national view of the question, and firmly advocate the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number. Cannot recommend any measure that will in the least cripple the energies of our people, but cheerfully advocate the revision of the Treaty if any of its parts are unjust or oppressive.' 'What we desire is to make our trade still more reciprocal, still more free with our Canadian neighbours.'"

" WISCONSIN.

"Chamber of Commerce at Milwaukie, January 13, 1864, desires 'such action as shall result in securing a new Treaty, founded upon the true principles of reciprocity between the two Governments and the people of both countries, and which shall obviate the objections and inequalities existing in the present Treaty, and be upon a more liberal and enlarged basis.'"

" MINNESOTA.

"Memorial of the Chamber of Commerce at St. Paul, referred to the Committee on Commerce, February 5, 1862, invokes the 'sober second thought' of the country on the subject of our continental policy; reiterates the uniform utterance of the authorities and citizens of Minnesota 'in anticipating an adjustment of the relations of the United States and all the British provinces on this Continent on a basis of mutual interest and goodwill;' does 'not deny the expediency of a revision of existing stipulations, but always in the interest of further freedom, not additional restriction of commercial intercourse.' . . . From these several expressions of sentiment touching our commercial relations with our neighbours, we look for an amended Treaty that shall correct any imperfections that time has shown to exist